

HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT[441]

Notice of Intended Action

Twenty-five interested persons, a governmental subdivision, an agency or association of 25 or more persons may demand an oral presentation hereon as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.4(1)“b.”

Notice is also given to the public that the Administrative Rules Review Committee may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this proposed action under section 17A.8(6) at a regular or special meeting where the public or interested persons may be heard.

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code section 249A.4, the Department of Human Services proposes to amend Chapter 88, “Managed Health Care Providers,” Iowa Administrative Code.

These amendments will add language to ensure that managed care organization (MCO) network providers who seek a state fair hearing on behalf of a Medicaid member have involved the member and have that member’s specific consent to pursue a state fair hearing.

These amendments will conform the rules of the Department to federal regulations that require consent of the member when a network provider requests a hearing. 42 CFR 438.402 specifically requires written consent of the member.

Any interested person may make written comments on the proposed amendments on or before November 20, 2012. Comments should be directed to Harry Rossander, Bureau of Policy Coordination, Department of Human Services, Hoover State Office Building, 1305 East Walnut Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0114. Comments may be sent by fax to (515)281-4980 or by e-mail to policyanalysis@dhs.state.ia.us.

These amendments do not provide for waivers in specified situations because all Medicaid providers who are members of a managed care organization (MCO) should be subject to the same requirements. However, requests for the waiver of any rule may be submitted under the Department’s general rule on exceptions at 441—1.8(17A,217).

After analysis and review of this rule making, no impact on jobs has been found.

These amendments are intended to implement Iowa Code section 249A.4.

The following amendments are proposed.

ITEM 1. Adopt the following **new** subrule 88.8(6):

88.8(6) Consent for state fair hearing. Network providers which are contracted and in good standing with a medical managed care organization (MCO) may request a state fair hearing only for disputes regarding payment of claims, specifically, disputes concerning the denial of a claim or reduction in payment, and only when acting on behalf of the member. The network provider requesting such a state fair hearing must have the prior, express, signed written consent of the member or the member’s lawfully appointed guardian in order to request such a hearing. Notwithstanding any contrary provision in 441—Chapter 7, no state fair hearing will be granted unless the network provider submits a document providing such member’s approval of the request for a state fair hearing. The document must specifically inform the member that protected health information (PHI) may be discussed at the hearing and may be made public in the course of the hearing and subsequent administrative and judicial proceedings. The document must contain language that indicates the member’s knowledge of the potential for PHI to become public and that the member knowingly, voluntarily and intelligently consents to the network provider’s bringing the state fair hearing on the member’s behalf. An administrative law judge must dismiss any state fair hearing that is certified for a contested case hearing but does not strictly comply with all of the requirements of this subrule.

ITEM 2. Adopt the following **new** subrule 88.68(7):

88.68(7) Consent for state fair hearing. Network providers which are contracted and in good standing with the Iowa plan contractor may request a state fair hearing only for disputes regarding payment of claims, specifically, disputes concerning the denial of a claim or reduction in payment, and only when acting on behalf of the member. The network provider requesting such a state fair hearing

must have the prior, express, signed written consent of the member or the member's lawfully appointed guardian in order to request such a hearing. Notwithstanding any contrary provision in 441—Chapter 7, no state fair hearing will be granted unless the network provider submits a document providing such member's approval of the request for a state fair hearing. The document must specifically inform the member that protected health information (PHI) may be discussed at the hearing and may be made public in the course of the hearing and subsequent administrative and judicial proceedings. The document must contain language that indicates the member's knowledge of the potential for PHI to become public and that the member knowingly, voluntarily and intelligently consents to the network provider's bringing the state fair hearing on the member's behalf. An administrative law judge must dismiss any state fair hearing that is certified for a contested case hearing but does not strictly comply with all of the requirements of this subrule.